

## Innovative

### Inside this issue:

Welcome	1
Statistics	1
Agency Spotlight	2
Recall Notice	3
2007 ICAA Annual Conference	4
Questions & Answers	4
Program Monitoring Schedule	4
Agency Spotlight	5
Fiscal Monitoring Schedule	5
Notes of Appreciation	6
2007 IWAC Retreat	7
Weatherization Bureau Furnace Lab	7
Slate Siding Air Sample Test Results	8
Extreme Photos	9
Handiwork	9
Upcoming Events	10
Speed Bumps	11

From all of us in the  
Weatherization Bureau  
in Des Moines

Jim, Gwen, Mark, Marcia,  
Chris, Mike and Rosemary

## Welcome

Welcome to the July 2007  
Edition of the **IOWAN**

Mike and I have already performed several monitorings throughout the state since the beginning of the program year and know that you are all keeping very busy. While you are keeping busy, you are finding ways to make your job a little easier. Some of you have shared that creativity for inclusion in the newsletter. Be sure to check out your colleagues' work under Handiwork in each edi-

tion of the IOWAN. And, remember to submit your "handy" idea for an upcoming issue. Don't forget to include those all important pictures, as well, because, as you know, a picture speaks a thousand words.

Are you in need of additional weatherization client education materials in Spanish? If so, be sure to visit [www.waptac.org](http://www.waptac.org) and click on Client Education Overview for samples you may use at your agency.

## Statistics

<u>Item</u>	<u>*QTRLY</u>	<u>**YTD</u>
Houses Worked On	359	359
Completions	338	338
Closed Incomplete	21	21
Owner-Occupied	310	310
Rentals	49	49
Elderly-Occupied	100	100
Disabled-Occupied	157	157
Occupied by Young Children	73	73
Furnace Replacements	162	162
Refrigerator Replacements	116	116
Freezer Replacements	37	37
Average Costs per House	\$6,982	\$6,982

Totals for all agencies combined

\*QTRLY (April 2007—May 2007)

\*\* YTD (April 2007—May 2007)

## Agency Spotlight—West Central Development Corporation

### West Central Development Corporation

April 27, 2007—(Harlan, Iowa) The West Central Development Corp. (WCDC) Board of Directors honored Harlan resident Marilyn Rodacker with the Wilbur F. Peters award at its annual meeting on April 17.

Wilbur Peters was the founding executive director of WCDC, a community action agency serving 10 counties in southwest Iowa. The Wilbur Peters award is presented annually to an employee or volunteer who has contributed significantly to the mission of WCDC and who believes as Mr. Peters did that WCDC can affect positive change to low-income families and individuals.



WCDC Executive Director Joel Dirks presented the award to Marilyn and cited her contributions of leading the Energy and Housing Departments since 1982. "As we face past, present and future technology changes, new ways of serving our clients and external and internal program changes, we have had one constant in helping us work through these issues, Marilyn Rodacker," Joel said.

Marilyn's primary responsibilities at WCDC have been to oversee the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization program. For LIHEAP, Marilyn has assisted households with payment of their fuel bills to ensure continuation of service or restore services that have been disconnected. Emergency crisis intervention is

also available to repair or replace heating systems, provide emergency fuel delivery, or purchase air conditioners and fans.

The Weatherization program allows homes to be evaluated by West Central staff and private contractors are hired to insulate attics and walls, repair or replace windows and doors, install weather stripping, and perform minor foundation repairs.

"Through Marilyn and her staff's efforts, West Central is respected by our peers around the state and is recognized by our funding sources for operating one of the state's best LIHEAP and Weatherization Programs," noted Joel.

In addition to the LIHEAP and Weatherization programs, WCDC has been assisting families and individuals in reaching their highest potential for over 40 years through a variety of poverty-fighting programs, including: Head Start; Women Infants and Children nutrition program; Senior Aides; Family Development and Self-Sufficiency; and county Outreach Centers. The counties WCDC serves are Cass, Crawford, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby.

*West Central Development Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**West Central Development Corporation's mission is to assist families and individuals in reaching their highest potential.**

*"I'm writing this note today to let you know how much I appreciate all of the work you folks have done to my home to make it more energy efficient and healthy. I am very grateful to you."*

— West Central Development Client

## Recall Notice

### Oil-Filled Electric Heaters Recalled

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2007

Release #07-168

Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 306-2471

CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772

CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

The Holmes Group Recalls Oil-Filled Electric Heaters Due to Fire Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of product: Holmes® Oil-Filled Electric Heaters

Units: About 300,000

Distributor: The Holmes Group, of Milford, Mass.

Hazard: A poor electrical connection within the heater can lead to overheating. This poses fire and thermal burn hazards.

Incidents/Injuries: The Holmes Group has received reports of 59 incidents involving the recalled heaters. There were 12 reports of minor injuries including four reported burns. There were 36 reports of property damage including four fires that caused between \$41,000 and \$200,000 in damage.

Description: The recall involves Holmes oil-filled electric heaters with model number HOH2505 and HOH2520. The model number and "Holmes®" are printed on the side of the unit near the bottom.

Sold at: Discount department stores, hardware stores and other retailers from September 2005 through February 2007 for between \$40 and \$50.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled heaters and contact the Holmes Group to receive a free replacement heater.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact The Holmes Group at (800) 306-2471 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.holmesoilfilledheaterrecall.com](http://www.holmesoilfilledheaterrecall.com).

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The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.



To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at [www.cpsc.gov/talk.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html). To join a CPSC email subscription list, please go to [www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.asp](http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.asp). Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

## 2007 ICAA Annual Conference

The **Iowa Community Action Association's Annual Conference** was held June 25-27, 2007 at the Marriott Hotel in West Des Moines and was packed with two wonderful guest speakers and a plethora of workshops.

Mark Rank, author of *Living on the Edge: the Realities of Welfare in America* and *One Nation, Underprivileged: Why American Poverty Affects Us All*, was the opening speaker. He is currently examining the widening economic divide in America, and how that divide is undermining the country's fundamental values and principles. In addition, he is working with long-time collaborator, Thomas Hirschl of Cornell University, to explore various aspects of American lives as they unfold across the life course.



The closing speaker was David Bornstein, *The Price of a Dream: The Story of the Grameen Bank*, which chronicles the worldwide growth of the anti-poverty strategy "micro-credit." *The Price of a Dream*, which drew on ten months of research

in villages in Bangladesh, won second prize in the Harry Chapin Media Awards, was a finalist for the Helen Bernstein New York Public Library Book Award for Excellence in Journalism, and was selected by the San Francisco Chronicle as one of the best business books of 1996. His second work, *How to Change the World* tells the fascinating stories of social entrepreneurs: the driven, creative individuals who question the status quo, exploit new opportunities, refuse to give up--and remake the world for the better.

Please visit <http://www.iowacommunityaction.com/Conf/> for more information about the conference as well as the keynote speakers.

### Tentative 2007 Program Monitoring Schedule

July	Siouxland New Opportunities
August	HACAP
September	Red Rock NE Iowa

## Questions and Answers

**Question:** When you find that we are missing a statement in our contract, do we need to re-do our contract and have our contractors sign the new contract before their contract expires?

**Question:** Does the furnace contractor's trip charge need to be included in the furnace replacement expenditure threshold when requesting a waiver?

**Answer:** Generally, you will not have to revise your contract until the current contract has expired. However, if a significant change needs to be made, a contract addendum will need to be done. If you have questions, just give Chris Taylor a call at 515-281-4565.

**Answer:** Yes

## Agency Spotlight—MATURA Action Corporation

### Program Collaboration

As you know, our agencies operate many programs, some of which compliment each other in extraordinary ways, such as in the case below. MATURA Action Corporation in Creston was able to weatherize the house and another of the agencies' programs was able to fund rehabilitation on the home. Wow! What a difference it made! Take a look at the pictures below and be sure to think about how the programs in your agency can collaborate to provide the most assistance possible to the families you serve.



*"My family and I wish to express sincere appreciation for the work your agency completed on my home in Greenfield. The crew that performed the work was very courteous and did a good job. The Iowa Weatherization Program is very worthwhile and I'm sure I will see a difference in my utility costs. Thank you again.*

—MATURA Client

### Tentative 2007 Fiscal Monitoring Schedule

July	Mid-Sioux Opportunity
	Community Action of Siouxland
August	NE Iowa Community Action
September	North Iowa Community Action



## Notes of Appreciation

**New Community Action Staff**—Recently, there have been quite a few new additions to the community action family. We welcome all of you.

- HACAP—Bob Freese (Coordinator)
- New Opportunities—Ron Morlock (Evaluator/Inspector)
- Operation Threshold—Joe Card (Evaluator/Inspector), Joe Ambrose (Evaluator/Inspector)
- Polk County—Josh Langenfeld (Evaluator/Inspector)
- Red Rock—Bryan Downey (Evaluator/Inspector)
- West Central—Duane Nowatzke (Evaluator/Inspector), Robert Brockoff Jr. (Evaluator/Inspector)

**CCAP Certification**—As of June 26, 2007 Jim Perry successfully completed the requirements for becoming a certified Community Action Professional (CCAP). He would like to thank all of his fellow employees at Northeast Iowa Community Action Corp; his friends for all their help in this accomplishment. He would also like to encourage everyone go after this prestigious designation. Congratulations, Jim!

**Advanced Blower Door/Zonal Pressure Diagnostics Training**—Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc. hosted a state training on June 19 and 20<sup>th</sup>. The training, Advanced Blower Door/Zonal Pressure Diagnostics, is a combination of classroom and in-field training. Mark Bergmeier, State Trainer, provided valuable information on the use of the DG-700 and TI-86 in conjunction with the blower door to determine building tightness limits, baseline, aligning thermal and pressure boundaries, and zonal pressure testing.

The class was attended by Ron Morlock with New Opportunities, Phil Klar and Brian Bacon with MICA, Dale Gernhart with Siouxland, Josh Langenfeld with Polk County, and Carol Braun and Julie Colling with Mid-Sioux.



Mid-Sioux expressed that Mark Bergmeier is an outstanding trainer and they thank him for all the new information provided.



**DOE Visit**—Rob DeSoto, a representative from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), recently visited the DCAA Weatherization office to conduct a program monitoring. During the monitoring, he asked to visit a local agency to get a feel for how a local agency in Iowa operates, as well as to visit with them about the program. Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA) in Marshalltown, was kind enough to host this visit. Mr. DeSoto had a chance to tour the facility, including the furnace training center, as well as conduct a few on-site visits at houses where the crews were working. He was thoroughly impressed with what he saw and learned during his visit in Iowa, as evidenced by the monitoring report he sent to us. The DCAA would like to take this chance to thank MICA for hosting this visit and providing input regarding the program.

**South Dakota State Monitor Visit**—Recently, our state Weatherization office was contacted by the South Dakota Weatherization office to inquire about a peer exchange. Dave Like, the State Monitor with South Dakota hoped to shadow Iowa's state staff during a program monitoring and house inspections. On July 9-11, Mr. Like visit Community Action of Siouxland with Chris Taylor and Mike Speed from the Iowa office. He was quite impressed with our monitoring as well as the agency and their staff. We would like to thank Siouxland for their hospitality during our visit. They were more than accommodating to ensure this visit was fruitful for Mr. Like, which we greatly appreciate.

## 2007 IWAC Retreat

The **2007 IWAC Retreat** was held in June at The Inn in Okoboji. On the first day, meetings were held followed by a tour of a wind farm. On the second day, three presentations were given; one from Mid-American Energy, one from Alliant Energy and one from Mike Adams with DCAA Fiscal. The retreat was quite informative and fun was had by all. Next years' retreat will be June 11-12, 2008 at the same location.



## Weatherization Bureau Furnace Lab



*The new Weatherization Bureau furnace lab is up and running at MICA in Marshalltown. A couple of trainings have already been held and have had great reviews.*



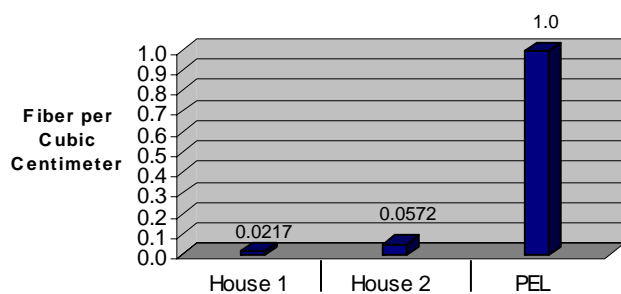
## Slate Siding Air Sample Test Results

### Air Sample Test Results

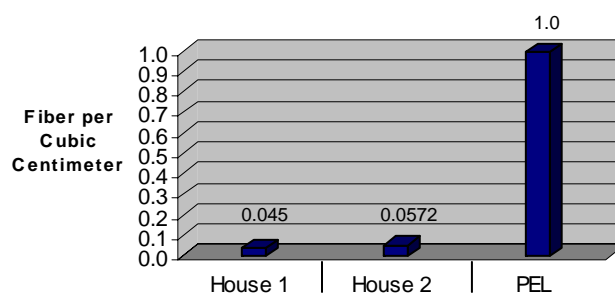
July 2-5, 2007

Following are the results and reports from air samples taken by Northeast Iowa Community Action on two (2) houses where slate siding was removed and reinstalled. The air samples were tested by EMC Labs, Inc., using the Phase Contrast Microscopy test (Method 7400). Below, are charts indicating the results.

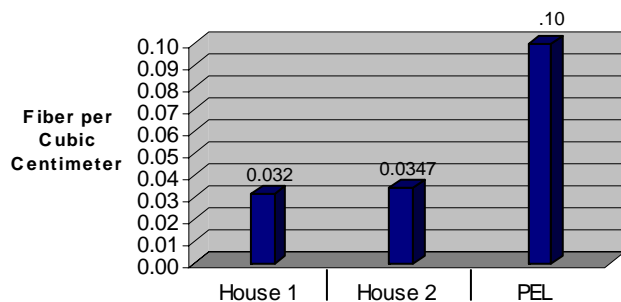
**30-Minute Excursion Limit  
Siding Removal  
July 2-5, 2007**



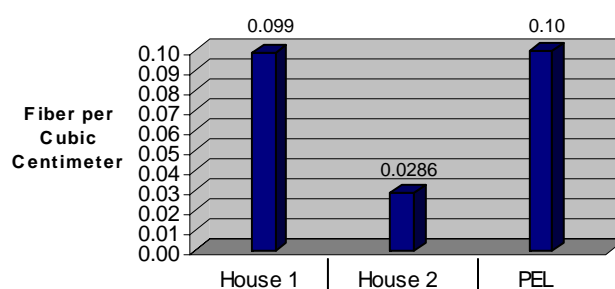
**30-Minute Excursion Limit  
Siding Reinstallation  
July 2-5, 2007**



**Time-Weighted Average  
Siding Removal  
July 2-5, 2007**



**Time-Weighted Average  
Siding Reinstallation  
July 2-5, 2007**





## Extreme Photos



*Even a generous amount of duct tape couldn't hold this monster together.*



*A small obstacle...*



*How ingenious!  
The furnace, air conditioner and dehumidifier all dump into a bucket which is then pumped out with a sump pump.*

## Handiwork

*Do you ever get frustrated with the plastic you have to put down when you are removing and reinstalling slate siding? What about when you are working in a crawlspace?*

Well, Don Forney and Josh VanSkyhawk with Northeast Iowa Community Action have a solution for you.

Use landscaping U shaped wires with cap nail washers attached to them, to hold plastic down on the ground or in crawlspaces. Note that when you use them in crawlspaces, you will want to seal them with mastic when you are done.



*How do you put Qlon on an extra tall door? Eldon Starmer with MATURA Action Corporation came up with this idea.*

On doors that are taller than the Qlon weatherstripping, a second piece needs to be installed for the desired height. Cut the second pieces' carrier to fit the height of the door, but leave the Qlon a couple of inches longer. Then cut back the longer pieces' Qlon to accommodate the Qlon on the shorter piece. Slide the Qlon of the shorter piece into the carrier of the longer piece to ensure a tight seal.

## Upcoming Events

### July 2007

- 10—11      **Advanced Furnace** training to be held at Mid-Iowa Community Action, 1001 S. 18th Avenue, Marshalltown, Iowa. For more information or to sign up, contact Marcia Thompson at [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov) or 515-281-3861.
- 24—25      **Combustion Health & Safety** to be held at Mid-Iowa Community Action, 1001 S. 18th Avenue, Marshalltown, Iowa. For more information or to sign up, contact Marcia Thompson at [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov) or 515-281-3861.

### August 2007

- 7—8      **WAMS** training to be held in Marshalltown, Iowa at the Best Western Regency Inn, 3303 S. Center Street. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov) or 515-281-3861.

### September 2007

- 18—21      **2007 NASCSP Annual Conference** to be held in Boise, Idaho. For more information, email the Gove Group at [chomol@gove.org](mailto:chomol@gove.org).
- 25—26      **NEAT Audit/NEATShell** training to be held at Operation Threshold, 300 West Third Street, Waterloo, Iowa. For more information or to sign up, contact Marcia Thompson at [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov) or 515-281-3861.



\*\*\* Save the Date \*\*\*

ACI Home Performance Conference 2008

Pittsburgh, PA ~ April 7-11, 2008

[www.affordablecomfort.org](http://www.affordablecomfort.org)

The 2007 Training Schedule is on our website [www.weatherization.iowa.gov](http://www.weatherization.iowa.gov) under Current Events !

## Speed Bumps

- Defining the air barrier/thermal barrier of the home is critical. There are a few cases when it is very difficult to determine. Please feel free to call me or Mark if you have questions about where the air barrier should be. It can be very difficult for new evaluators. Once you have determined where the barrier is located, be sure to seal and insulate according to the NEAT Audit.
- We have had some problems with reinspections that are not complete. This is being found during my state reinspection. The work that is required to be done should be verified as completed by the agency prior to sending them in as completed. Also, they need to be completed within 45 days of the date on the report. A response should be given as to why they aren't completed if you are unable to get them done in the allotted time.
- The NEAT audit needs to be followed when determining the amounts of insulation to install. We do know that the audit over predicts savings and adding more insulation to the attics is not cost-effective.
- Checking the drafts on the water heater and furnace needs to be done under the worst case scenario. (*Work Standards* Section 2000, p.33, 34)
- Recessed lights need to be treated as outlined in the *Work Standards*. (Section 5000, p. 10)
- The number of light bulbs installed need to be determined by the evaluator and client. It should not be a pre-determined number (6). A maximum of 12 bulbs may be installed. The fixtures they are installed in should be on for a minimum of one and a half hours per day. The bulbs need to be installed and not left at the house for the client to install. (*Work Standards* Section 6000 p. 5)
- I'm still finding condensate lines for the furnace draining into crawlspaces and under mobile homes, this is not allowed.

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***Please feel free to copy and distribute.***

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### Iowa Bureau of Weatherization

Department of Human Rights  
Community Action Agency  
Lucas State Office Building, 2nd Floor  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

***We're on the Web!!!***  
***[www.weatherization.iowa.gov](http://www.weatherization.iowa.gov)***

#### Contact us at:

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